

IDENTIFICATION OF THE I $\kappa$ BNS PROTEIN AND ITS PRODUCTS

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The identification of a novel gene, termed I $\kappa$ BNS, regulated during negative selection of immature CD4<sup>+</sup>CD8<sup>+</sup> double positive (DP) thymocytes in mice, and the  
5 human homolog of the gene, are described, along with the gene products produced by these genes. Methods of using the disclosed genes and gene products are also described.